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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE****In re Application**

**Inventors:** James D. Thornton and Richard R. Burton  
**Appl. No.:** 09/740,076  
**Confirm. No.:** 4563  
**Filed:** December 19, 2000  
**Title:** METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR EXECUTING  
BATCH JOBS BY DELEGATING WORK TO  
INDEPENDENT SERVICE PROVIDERS

**PATENT APPLICATION**

**Art Unit:** 2194  
**Examiner:** Zhen, Li B.  
**Atty. Docket No. D/99578**

(XERX-01042US0)

**Customer No.: 23910****CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted by facsimile to the  
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Mathew Ottis

Signature Date: 1-9-06

(Signature)

**REPLY TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION UNDER 37 CFR § 1.116**

**Commissioner for Patents**  
**PO Box 1450**  
**Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

Dear Sir:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

This Reply, which is in response to the Office Action dated November 29, 2005,  
is being filed within 2 months of the mailing date of the final Office Action.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on  
page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 8 of this paper.

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